



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report



2023-0290

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1818 Jisco West Rd, Jackson,
OH 45640 (L)

Investigative Activity: Body Camera Review

Involves: Lt. [REDACTED] (S), William Edward Beach (S), Jackson County Sheriff's Office (O)

Date of Activity: 01/31/2023

Activity Location: – 1818 Jisco West Road, Jackson, OH 45640, Jackson County

Author: SA Craig Call

Narrative:

On January 31, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations and Crime Scene Units were requested by Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) Sheriff Ted Frazier to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (shooting) between members of the JCSO and William Beach (Beach). BCI was informed the incident occurred at 1818 Jisco West Road in Jackson County, Ohio, and resulted in Beach being fatally shot by JCSO Lieutenant [REDACTED] (Lt. [REDACTED]).

As a part of the investigation, SA Call was provided with body worn camera (BWC) footage of the JCSO officers involved in the incident. The BWC footage provided is a total of 25 video files for the seven (7) JCSO officers on scene during the incident. The breakdown of video files for each officer is:

- 5 videos for Sheriff Ted Frazier (Sheriff Frazier)
- 10 videos for Chief Deputy Scott Conley (Chief Conley)
- 3 videos for Lt. [REDACTED] (Lt. [REDACTED])
- 2 videos for Sgt. Jason Wilson (Sgt. Wilson)
- 2 videos for Deputy Leif Smith (Deputy Smith)
- 2 videos for Deputy Jesse Reynolds (Deputy Reynolds)
- 1 video for Deputy Nicholas Spangler (Deputy Spangler)

SA Call was also provided BWC footage from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers present during the incident. The BWC footage provided is a total of three video files and an additional two (2) cruiser cameras. The breakdown of video files for each trooper is:

- 2 videos for Sgt. Hayes with one being a BWC and the other a cruiser camera
- 2 videos for Trooper Vickers with one being a BWC and the other a cruiser camera
- 1 video for Trooper Folden which is a BWC

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The majority of the BWC video footage contains information related to the above-mentioned deputies' initial response to the call for service and negotiation attempts to persuade William Beach (Beach) out of the residence at 1818 Jisco West Road.

All of the above-mentioned deputies had their BWC on during the time the shooting took place with the exception of Chief Conley and Deputy Spangler. Deputy Spangler was equipped with his BWC when he arrived on scene, however he switched to a vest with greater ballistic protection during the incident and the vest did not have an appropriate mount for his BWC. Deputy Spangler's actions at the time of the shooting can be clearly observed on other deputies BWC footage.

While all of the video footage has been reviewed by SA Call, the majority of the following report will be a summation of the information observed on the BWC footage just prior to, during, and just after the shooting. It should also be noted that Beach cannot be visually observed on any of the above referenced videos until after he is shot and the deputies make entry into the residence.

Sgt. Wilson and Deputy Smith are the initial responding deputies to an in-progress trespassing complaint. Sgt. Wilson and Deputy Smith are able to confirm Beach as the suspect of the complaint after meeting with the original callers and the occupants of 1818 Jisco West Road. The occupants of 1818 Jisco West informed Sgt. Wilson and Deputy Smith Beach was staying at the adjacent residence/building also located on the property of 1818 Jisco West Road. Sgt. Wilson and Deputy Smith make several attempts to contact Beach by knocking on the door loudly and loudly announcing their presence.

The deputies discover Beach is on probation and request Chief Probation Officer Wesley Skaggs (Chief Skaggs) to respond to the residence to assist. Shortly after the request, Chief Skaggs, Probation Officer Christina Edwards (Officer Edwards), Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Reynolds arrive to assist. Officers on scene attempt to breach the door using a credit card and pocket knife and are initially successful, however they find the door to be barricaded. Lt. [REDACTED] is able to discover an unlocked window near the front door and slides it open. Lt. [REDACTED] can be observed putting his head through the window then quickly retreating and yelling, "Drop the axe." All of the officers retreat from the porch and continue yelling various commands for Beach to come out unarmed. Chief Skaggs can be observed using a long pipe to pull back the curtains blocking the front window and announcing he observed Beach with a gun, which he later describes as a handgun. After this announcement, all of the officers fall back behind the various vehicles on scene and continue to give Beach commands to come out peacefully.

Chief Conley and Deputy Spangler arrive on scene to assist. Throughout this time period, the majority of officers on scene make attempts to establish a dialogue with Beach. Beach can be heard responding at times, but rarely understood. Sheriff Frazier, Trooper Sherry Wells (Trooper Wells), and Trooper Marlin Folden (Trooper Folden) respond to the scene to assist. Trooper Wells and Deputy Spangler continue efforts to communicate with Beach, but are mostly unsuccessful. Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Smith are provided a "throw phone" by Trooper Folden and are successfully able to place it inside the front window using a ballistic shield for cover. It does not appear Beach ever answers the throw phone based off of the BWC's.

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Beach appears to request a cigarette and Sheriff Frazier was able to retrieve one from one of the residents at 1818 Jisco West Road. Sheriff Frazier can be observed loudly announcing for Beach to come out in order to be provided the cigarette. During this time, Sgt. Wilson and Trooper Wells can be heard explaining to Beach he has to come out to receive the cigarette due to him being armed. Beach can be heard confirming he has a gun to Sgt. Wilson during this dialogue. It appears Beach declines to come out for the cigarette.

After the negotiations appear to fail, Sheriff Frazier can be observed looking back at Lt. [REDACTED] as Lt. [REDACTED] communicates to him it is time to breach the door and Sheriff Frazier appears to agree.

Lt. [REDACTED] Deputy Smith, and Deputy Spangler are the three officers on scene that approach the front door of the residence. Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Smith have their BWC's activated. During the time of the approach and shooting, Sheriff Frazier, Sgt. Hayes, Trooper Vickers, and Officer Edwards are all positioned in the roadway West of 1818 Jisco West Road with all officers except Officer Edwards having an activated BWC. Chief Conley and Chief Skaggs are positioned behind a JCSO cruiser in the roadway directly in front of the residence and neither have a BWC activated. Trooper Folden is positioned at the front passenger side of his vehicle parked near Chief Conley and Chief Skaggs. Trooper Folden's BWC was activated. Sgt. Wilson, Trooper Wells, and Deputy Reynolds are positioned near the east corner of the residence behind a white pickup truck. Sgt. Wilson and Deputy Reynolds have BWC's activated.

Lt. [REDACTED] Deputy Smith, and Deputy Spangler approach the front door of the residence in a stacked formation. Lt. [REDACTED] is front of the stack with a ballistic shield with his pistol drawn and presented in front of the shield. Deputy Smith is second with and a breaching ram occupying both of his hands. Deputy Spangler is third with his pistol drawn and pointed towards the ground. Lt. [REDACTED] steps onto the front porch and moves immediately to the left of the front door. Deputy Smith steps onto the front porch and immediately breaches the door with the breaching ram. Deputy Smith immediately retreats off of the porch, drops the breaching ram, and draws his pistol. Immediately after the door is breached, Lt. [REDACTED] begins moving in front of the doorway and can be heard yelling, "Sheriff's Office! Come out with your hands up now! Now!" Lt. [REDACTED]'s BWC is blocked by the ballistic shield and the inside of the residence cannot be viewed at this time. After making this announcement, Lt. [REDACTED] continues to slowly move to his right with the ballistic shield and his pistol still out in front of him. During this time, a loud yell of the words "mother fucker" can be heard and Lt. [REDACTED] fires one round into the residence. The shot being fired can best be observed on Sgt. Wilson's BWC. The shot occurs approximately 12 seconds after the door was initially breached.

Lt. [REDACTED] enters the residence and a 1911 style handgun can be observed on top of a cardboard box with Beach on the floor immediately behind it. As Lt. [REDACTED] continues into the residence, he bumps into the box and the firearm falls into the floor area. Lt. [REDACTED] continues to scream various commands at Beach while Beach is flailing his arms and legs as he is on the ground. Lt. [REDACTED] appears to communicate the firearms location to Deputy Smith at this time. Lt. [REDACTED] draws his taser with his left hand and fires it towards Beach, with one of the probes striking a cardboard box and the other unable to be observed. Lt. [REDACTED] cycles the taser three times over a period of approximately 25 seconds with all attempts appearing to be ineffective. Deputy Smith appears to ask Lt. [REDACTED] if the taser hit Beach and Lt. [REDACTED] responds indicating he hit the ceiling.

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Lt. ██████ and Deputy Smith move towards Beach and recognize he is shot as they attempted to roll him over. Both officers immediately call out for EMS to respond and request medical equipment. Deputy Smith communicates Beach appears to be shot in the upper chest area. Lt. ██████ and Deputy Smith are provided with shears and gauze. Lt. ██████ and Deputy Smith cut Beach's shirt open and pack the gunshot wound with gauze and apply pressure until EMS arrive and take over medical care.

Sgt. Wilson continues with EMS to the hospital and can be observed assisting squad personnel with chest compressions throughout the transport.

After Beach is transported, Sheriff Frazier gathers the officers on scene and conducts a short briefing. During this time, Lt. ██████ confirms he is the one who shot Beach. Sheriff Frazier indicates BCI will be responding to the scene to complete the investigation. Troopers Wells and Folden communicate they will use crime scene tape to secure the area.

According to Sgt. Wilson's BWC, the incident lasted approximately four (4) hours from the time of the response to the initial call for service until Beach arrived at the hospital. Sgt. Wilson's BWC was used as a time reference due to Sgt. Wilson being present as an initial responding officer and present as the incident concluded.

The above report is a summation of all of the bwc footage provided and not a report of each individual video. The individual videos should be referenced for specific quotes and additional actions not described above. The individual videos are contained on two separate USB thumbdrives which have been added to the case file as evidence.

References:

USB Thumbdrive – Black SanDisk Ultra USB 3.0

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